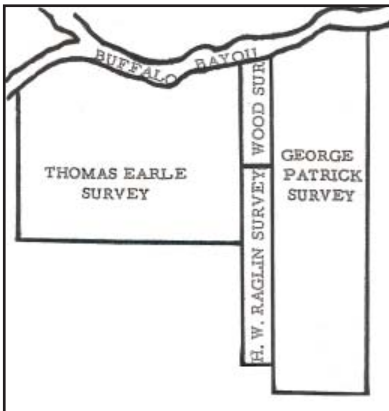
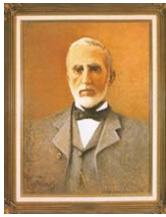


DID YOU KNOW?

The original town of Deer Park was based on four surveys:

1. Thomas Earle Survey, granted by the Mexican Government in 1824
2. George M. Patrick Survey, granted by Texas in 1827
3. James B. Wood Survey, granted by Texas in 1838
4. H.W. Raglin Survey

Through the years, the land changed ownership many times. In 1892, Mr. Simeon Henry West, a Yankee from Illinois, began buying property with the intention of building a city. He recorded the plat of the out lots of the town of Deer Park in December of that year.



The location of the 4 surveys as shown in the Map Division of the National Archives, Washington, D.C.

A HISTORICAL MARKER

A hundred years after Texas won its independence from Mexico in 1836, the State of Texas erected a historical marker at the site where Dr. George Moffitt Patrick's Cabin stood along Buffalo Bayou. The marker was later removed when Rohm and Haas Texas began construction along the Houston Ship Channel.

On December 15, 1986, Rohm and Haas Texas, along with the Deer Park Sesquicentennial Committee, celebrated the rededication of the historical marker and placed the marker at its original site once again.

The marker was dedicated at the Rohm and Haas site location on Tidal Road between State Highway 225 and Battleground Road, recently renamed Independence Parkway. The public was invited to witness the ceremony, which included an opening speech by the Honorable Frank E. Tritico, Harris County Historical Commission Chairman, and a principal address by Congressman Michael Andrews.

The presentation of the marker was made by Harris County Commissioner Jim Fonteno, followed by the unveiling of the marker by Irvin Patrick Bradley, the 92 year old great-grandson of Dr. George M. Patrick.

Rededication of a Historical Marker



Pictured above from left to right: Mayor Jimmy Burke, Congressman Michael Andrews, Irvin Patrick Bradley, and Harris County Historical Commissioner Frank E. Tritico.

Descendants of the Patrick Family



Pictured above from left to right: Brook Cochran, Mrs. Bill Bean, Janis Cochran, Congressman Michael Andrews, Mrs. Percy Fuqua, Ivan Bradley, Grace Bradley Bay, Bill Bean, Lillian Clare Buffington, and Beverly Buffington.

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To schedule a tour of Patrick's Cabin, please contact the City of Deer Park at (281) 479-2394.



710 E. San Augustine
Deer Park, Texas 77536
(281) 479-2394
www.deerparktx.gov



BIRTHPLACE OF TEXAS®

THE HISTORY



Painting by Artist William Henry Huddle

In April 1836, General Sam Houston and his small band of men defeated the powerful Mexican Army under the leadership of General Santa Anna on the San Jacinto Battlefield. Following the battle, General Sam Houston took the Mexican General to a nearby cabin to draft the initial treaty documents securing Texas' Independence from Mexico. This cabin, also known as the home of Dr. George Moffitt Patrick, was located in Deer Park on Buffalo Bayou where Rohm and Haas Texas Incorporated is today. Because of this significant happening on Deer Park soil, Deer Park holds the distinction of being the true *Birthplace of Texas*®.



THE REPLICA

Patrick's Cabin is of great significance to Deer Park history. The City of Deer Park proudly displays a replica of the historic Patrick's Cabin at 1410 Center Street between 13th Street and W. Helgra Street.

The replica was constructed in 1985 by a group of City employees in the Parks & Recreation and Public Works Departments. In November 2007, a joint effort by the Beautification Committee and the Historical and Tourism Committee moved Patrick's Cabin from Dow Park to its more prominent and permanent location on Center Street. The cabin was originally on P Street behind the Deer Park Public Library, where it was vandalized one night. It was then moved to Dow Park, where it remained virtually unseen by the public.

After the final relocation, modifications were made to the interior and exterior of the cabin, as well as the site, to better capture the authenticity of the 1830's.



MEMORIAL FOR 2 EARLY SETTLERS

In 1928, Shell Oil Company purchased land in Deer Park to build its refinery tank farm. Before long, surveyors came across a tombstone with the inscription:

To the Memory of
Mary W. Jackson
Died July 24, 1834
Age 33 years
And
William Wilson
Died October 7, 1834
Age 25
Both of Boston, U.S.A.

Although signs of an actual grave were never found, Shell Oil Company opted to restore the tombstone and maintain the area where the tombstone was found as if it were a genuine gravesite.

The tombstone belonged to two of the area's early settlers, siblings Mary Jackson and William Wilson, from Boston. In the early 1830's, William purchased 575 acres of land from Thomas Earle, property which would later be within the Shell Complex. He built a home for his family on the bank of Buffalo Bayou near the location where the Battle of San Jacinto would be fought in 1836. Mary visited William at his home in 1834. An apparent epidemic of an unknown disease killed both of them within months of each other. William's family moved back to Boston after his death.

For about 49 years, the tombstone remained among Shell's refinery tank farm. After an unsuccessful attempt to locate the two settlers' next of kin, the Texas State Historical Commission gave Shell permission to move the gravestone so they could build the holding basin necessary to meet water quality regulations. The City of Deer Park agreed to designate an area in the City's Dow Park for the tombstone. The gravestone, along with some of the soil surrounding it, was moved from its original site to Dow Park on March 8, 1977 and named a historical marker by the Texas State Historical Commission. Shortly after the replica of Patrick's Cabin was moved from Dow Park to its permanent site, the tombstone was relocated to its final resting place, behind the Patrick's Cabin at 1410 Center Street.

Source: Hutchins, H. R. and Wells, Barbara. Shell Deer Park, Celebrating 75 Years: People Making a Difference. Deer Park, TX: Shell Deer Park Refining Limited Partnership and Shell Deer Park Chemical Plant, 2004.

